

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 169609

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS:MARR, TU

SUBJECT: US-TURKEY DEFENSE COOPERATION: POSSIBLE INTERIM
ARRANGEMENT

1. AS WE HAVE INDICATED TO GOT, PROMPT RESTORATION OF
ACTIVITIES AT COMMON DEFENSE INSTALLATIONS UPON REPEAL OF
SECTION 620(X) IS IMPORTANT.

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2. SECRETARY AND OTHER ADMINISTRATION OFFICIALS HAVE
RELAYED TO CONGRESS GOT ASSURANCES THAT LIFTING OF EMBARGO
WILL LEAD TO EARLY REOPENING OF INSTALLATIONS. WE HAVE
ALSO POINTED TO CONTINUING IMPORTANCE OF THESE INSTALLA-
TIONS.

3. AS EMBASSY IS AWARE, GOT AND US HAVE DIFFERENT LEGAL POSITIONS CONCERNING GOT'S PURPORTED UNILATERAL TERMINATION OF 1969 DCA AND RELATED AGREEMENTS. ALTHOUGH WE HAVE ACCEDED TO "PROVISIONAL STATUS" IN PRACTICE, US CONTINUES TO HOLD THAT THESE AGREEMENTS REMAIN IN FORCE. THUS, BY EXTENSION, WE BELIEVE THESE AGREEMENTS PROVIDE A SUFFICIENT LEGAL BASIS FOR RESUMING US OPERATIONS IN TURKEY WHICH ARE NOW SUSPENDED. AT THE SAME TIME, USG HAS AGREED WITH GOT THAT THE 1976 DCA SHOULD BE RENEGOTIATED AFTER THE EMBARGO IS LIFTED.

4. FOR INTERIM PERIOD PRIOR TO CONCLUSION OF A NEW DCA, WE WOULD HOPE THAT THE GOT WOULD AGREE TO A RESUMPTION OF US OPERATIONS WHEN EMBARGO IS LIFTED ON THE BASIS OF THE ARRANGEMENTS UNDER THE 1969 DCA. THIS WOULD BE, OF COURSE WITHOUT PREJUDICE TO THE VIEWS OF BOTH PARTIES CONCERNING PROVISIONS TO BE INCLUDED IN A NEW DCA. AN INTERIM ARRANGEMENT COULD BE EFFECTED THROUGH A UNILATERAL TURKISH DECLARATION OR BY AN EXCHANGE OF DIPLOMATIC NOTES, AS GOT PREFERS. IF GOT DESIRES, WE COULD ACCEPT EXCHANGE OF NOTES WHICH DOES NOT REFERENCE 1969 AGREEMENT IF IT CLEARLY PROVIDES FOR RESUMPTION OF US ACTIVITIES. INEVITABLE DAY-TO-DAY COMPLICATIONS ON PROCEDURES DURING INTERIM PERIOD WOULD HAVE TO BE RESOLVED THROUGH NORMAL LOCAL CHANNELS.

5. WE DO NOT WISH TO GET BOGGED DOWN IN INTERIM NEGOTIA-
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TIONS ON MATTER BEST COVERED BY NEGOTIATIONS ON A NEW DCA. OTHERWISE, WE COULD FIND OURSELVES IN THE POSITION OF HAVING TO RENEGOTIATE THE DCA AS A PREREQUISITE FOR RESUMING OPERATIONS. US HAS CONSIDERABLE FLEXIBILITY CONCERNING FORM AND CONTENT OF INTERIM ARRANGEMENT IN ORDER TO SATISFY LEGAL REQUIREMENTS PERCEIVED BY THE GOT, SO LONG AS INTERIM ARRANGEMENTS DO NOT PREJUDICE OUR FUTURE POSITIONS IN RENEWED NEGOTIATIONS. WE ARE WILLING TO OPEN NEGOTIATIONS ON INTERIM ARRANGEMENT AS SOON AS POSSIBLE ON UNDERSTANDING THAT ARRANGEMENT WILL NOT BE EXECUTED UNTIL SECTION 620(X) REPEAL IS ACCOMPLISHED.

6. ACTION REQUESTED: AMBASSADOR SHOULD APPROACH FOREIGN MINISTER OR MFA SEC GEN ELEKDAG TO URGE GOT AGREE TO NEGOTIATE AN INTERIM ARRANGEMENT QUICKLY ALONG THE LINES IN PARA 4 AND 5 ABOVE. HOPEFULLY, THIS ARRANGEMENT CAN BE CONCLUDED BEFORE CONGRESSIONAL VOTE ON EMBARGO. VANCE

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